

**For Immediate Release
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TENNESSEE TITANS HOST DCS CHILDREN FOR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

NASHVILLE, TENN. - Tennessee Titans players, coaches and staff helped brighten the holiday season for 30 foster children from the Department of Children's Services. Ranging in age from 6 to 17, the children had a pizza party luncheon with Titans mascot T-Rac and team staff before joining players at the Baptist Sports Park's indoor practice facility, for a meet-and-greet with Titans players and presentation of goodie bags and gifts.

"The overwhelming sentiment from Titans players, coaches and staff for this event is that this is an incredible way to touch the lives of some very special children during this holiday season," said Titans owner K.S. "Bud" Adams, Jr.

In addition to the Titans' goodie bag, each youngster received a gift certificate to shop at any one of the area Hecht's store locations. This is the fourth consecutive year the Titans organization has hosted children in foster care during the holidays.

"This event is a particularly thrilling one for our children, and we are so appreciative of the Tennessee Titans organization for embracing our foster children," said Commissioner Viola P. Miller. "Every child in this state deserves the opportunity to celebrate the holiday season. The Titans' generosity ensures this for these youths."

As of November 30, 2004, 6,664 children and youth in DCS custody were in a foster home in the state. Earlier this week, DCS announced that there were children who were still in need of Christmas gift donations. While items and monetary donations have poured in from the public, the Department continues to accept gifts to meet the demand.

"We still have a way to go," said Mattie Satterfield, director of adoption, foster care and kinship care. "We will be accepting gifts and monetary donations right up until Christmas Eve to ensure every child in foster care has a present under the tree on Christmas morning."

For more information about the need for donations, call 1-877-DCS-KIDS (1-877-327-5437) or your local DCS office.

The Tennessee Department of Children's Services was established to provide the best possible care for children and youth who are in state custody, or at significant risk of entering custody, and their families. Services provided by DCS include child protective services, foster care, adoption, kinship care, programs for delinquent youth, probation/aftercare, and treatment and rehabilitation programs for identified youth. DCS's Web site can be reached at www.state.tn.us/youth.

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